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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/993,794
Filing Date	November 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	John Phillip Chevalier
Art Unit	3677
Examiner Name	Gary Wayne Estremsky
Attorney Docket Number	SOMMR-006CUS

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on May 5, 2003
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-4330
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 01/26/2004 HDNESS1 00000115 09993794
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 770.00 DP
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Bruce B. Brunda	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,497
Signature	<i>Bruce B. Brunda</i>	Date	January 20, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below. January 20, 2004

Name (Print/Type)	Dawn A. Sacks	Date	January 20, 2004
Signature	<i>Dawn A. Sacks</i>		

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GROUP 3600

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Application No.: 09/993,794
Response to Office Action of July 17, 2003
Attorney Docket: SOMMR-006CUS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Sommerville & Rushton)	Confirmation No.	1594
)		
Serial No.:	09/993,794)	Art Unit:	3677
)		
Filed:	November 23, 2001)	Examiner:	Gary Wayne
)		Estremsky
For:	LATCH ARRANGEMENT FOR)		
	AUTOMOTIVE DOOR)		

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 17, 2003.

Election Requirement:

In the Office Action the Examiner has entered an Election Requirement between the following groups:

Group 1 – Motor vehicle latch with rotatable actuator (Claims 139 and 147);

Group 2 – Motor vehicle latch with linear actuator mechanism (Claim 140).

Claims 138 and 142-146 have been indicated to be generic.

In view of the Election Requirement the Examiner has indicated that Claim 140 is withdrawn from consideration, as the originally presented rotational embodiment of the invention has been viewed as a constructive election by Applicant. Applicant hereby affirms the election, without traverse. Should the generic claims be allowed, Applicant requests that Claim 140 be reinstated in the application.